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Committee for Programme and Coordination
Fifty-third session
3-28 June 2013
Agenda item 7
Adoption of the report of the Committee on its fifty-third session

Draft report

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Addendum

Proposed programme budget for the biennium 2014-2015
(*Item 3 (a)*)

Report of the Secretary-General on consolidated changes to the biennial programme plan as reflected in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2014-2015

Programme 10
Trade and development

1. At its 16th meeting, on 14 June 2013, the Committee considered the report of the Secretary-General on consolidated changes to the biennial programme plan as reflected in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2014-2015 (A/68/75).

2. The Deputy Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) introduced the report and responded to queries raised during its consideration by the Committee.

Discussion

3. Appreciation was expressed for programme 10, Trade and development, of the biennial programme plan and priorities for the period 2014-2015 (A/67/6/Rev.1) and for the work of UNCTAD, especially in the context of subprogramme 5, Africa, least developed countries and special programmes.

4. Several delegations sought clarification as to whether UNCTAD had taken into account all the decisions emanating from its thirteenth session, held in Doha from 21 to 26 April 2012 (the Doha Mandate). In particular, delegations expressed

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concern that the biennial programme plan did not reflect all the decisions of the Conference.

5. Concern was expressed by some delegations regarding the fact that, despite the holding of the thirteenth session of UNCTAD, the proposed programme budget did not fully take into account the Doha Mandate, especially with regard to middle-income countries.

6. Concern was also expressed with regard to the lack of consideration given to the conclusions and recommendations of the Committee at its fifty-second session, as approved by the General Assembly in its resolution 67/236.

7. One delegation expressed the view that the issue of middle-income countries was an important one. In that connection, it sought clarification regarding the phrases "some middle-income countries", "middle-income countries most in need" and "other relevant decisions". In particular, it wished to know who decided on the countries to which "some" referred, what was the basis for determining which middle-income countries were most in need and which were not and what was meant by "relevant". In addition, the delegation expressed concern regarding the inclusion of the term "relevant", given that the Committee, in its report on the work of its fifty-second session (A/67/16), had already recommended its deletion.

8. A number of delegations expressed concern regarding the omission of the term "middle-income countries" from the objectives, expected accomplishments and indicators of achievement of several subprogrammes, contrary to the specific recommendation of the Committee in its report (A/67/16).

9. The view was expressed that programme 10, Trade and development, should include the issue of sustainable development and that, while prioritizing the least developed countries, small island developing States and landlocked developing countries, it was essential for UNCTAD to cover all developing countries, including middle-income countries. In addition, the importance of integrating developed countries and their supply chains, with an emphasis on South-South cooperation and North-South cooperation, was stressed.

10. Lastly, a query was raised as to the direction of the discussion within the Trade and Development Board of UNCTAD with regard to the special event and publications to mark the fiftieth anniversary of UNCTAD, in 2014.

Conclusions and recommendations

11. **The Committee noted that some of the changes to the narrative of programme 10, Trade and development, as approved by the General Assembly in its resolution 67/236, had not been reflected in the report of the Secretary-General (A/68/75). The Committee therefore reiterated the following:**

Overall orientation

Paragraph 20

At the end of the second sentence, delete the phrase "and other relevant decisions".

Subprogramme 2
Investment and enterprise

Indicators of achievement

In indicator of achievement (b) (ii), after the phrase "developing countries", add the phrase "and countries with economies in transition".

Strategy

Paragraph 24

In the last sentence, replace (b) with the following:

"(b) helping developing countries, middle-income countries and countries with economies in transition, at their request, to strengthen their capacity to formulate and implement integrated policies, develop an enabling environment and participate in discussions related to international investment;".

In the last sentence, replace (c) with the following:

"(c) supporting efforts by developing countries, middle-income countries and countries with economies in transition to build productive capacities and internationally competitive firms;".

Subprogramme 3
International trade

Component 1
Strengthening international trade

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat

In expected accomplishment (b), after the phrase "developing countries", add the phrase ", middle-income countries".

In expected accomplishment (d), after the phrase "developing countries", add the phrase ", middle-income countries and countries with economies in transition".

Indicators of achievement

In indicator of achievement (d) (i), after the phrase "developing countries", add the phrase "and countries with economies in transition".

In indicator of achievement (d) (ii), after the phrase "developing countries", add the phrase "and countries with economies in transition".

Component 2
Commodities

Strategy

Paragraph 27

In the second sentence, after the word "Africa", add the words ", middle-income countries and countries with economies in transition,".

Subprogramme 4
Technology and logistics

Strategy

Paragraph 28

In the second sentence, after the word "Africa", add the phrase "middle-income countries, countries with economies in transition", and, after the phrase "small economies", delete ", as well as countries with economies in transition and some middle-income countries according to their needs".

12. **The Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the changes to the narrative of programme 10, Trade and development, as set out in the report of the Secretary-General (A/68/75) and in section 12 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2014-2015 (A/68/6 (Sect. 12)), subject to the following modifications:**

Subprogramme 2
Investment and enterprise

Objective of the Organization

After the words "as well as", add the phrase "middle-income countries, countries with economies in transition,".

Strategy

Paragraph 24

In the second sentence, delete the words "some" and "most in need".

*Outputs**

Paragraph 12.51, subparagraph (c) (i)

Replace the phrase "assistance to some middle-income countries that are most in need" with the phrase "assistance to middle-income countries, according to their needs, and to economies in transition".

Subprogramme 3
International trade

Component 1
Strengthening international trade

Strategy

Paragraph 26 (f)

Delete the word "some".

Paragraph 26 (i)

After the words "increased participation", add the words "and upscaling".

* See A/68/6 (Sect. 12).

Paragraph 26 (o)

Replace the paragraph with the following: "Addressing issues at the interface of trade and environment in the context of sustainable development, fostering low-carbon development, including through technology transfers, ensuring development gains and seizing trade opportunities related to the emerging climate change regime and the sustainable use of biodiversity."